

Middlebury Friends Meeting

November
2016

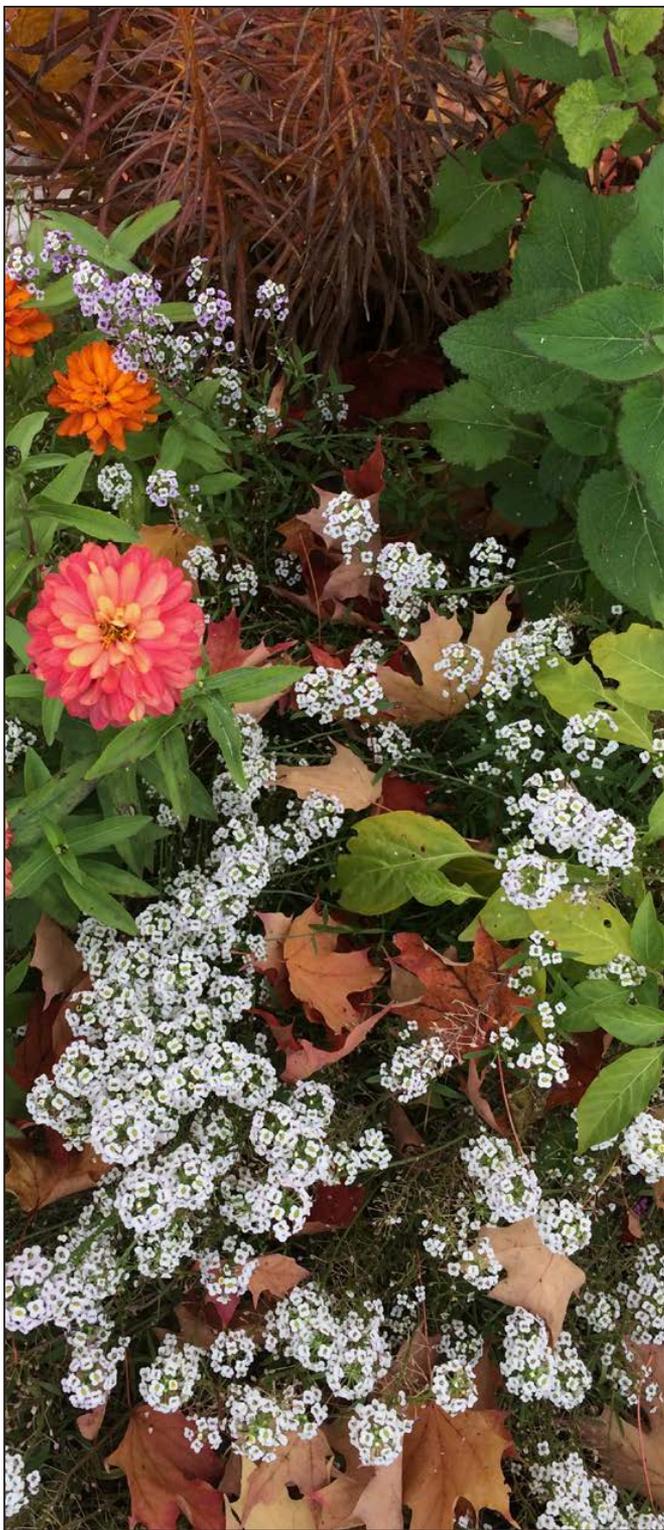
Inside:

Calendar of Events

Open Meeting

*Contributions
to Consider*

Minutes of Oct. 16



“Courage is fear that has said its prayers...”

— KARLE WILSON BAKER

NOVEMBER 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	○ 14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	● 29	30			

QUAKER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thur. Nov. 10	7:15 PM	Experiment with Light meditation at Jean Rosenberg's
Sun. Nov. 13	8:30 AM	W & S Committee at Havurah
Sun. Nov. 13	9:00 AM	Earthcare Committee at Havurah
Fri. Nov. 18	7:00 PM	Reception followed by...
	8:00 PM	showing of Sas' newest film, <i>Migration</i> , 80 min. film at Town Hall Theater
Sun. Nov. 20	8:30 AM	Monthly Meeting for Business
Sun. Nov. 20	11:30 AM	Fellowship Committee at Havurah
Mon. Nov. 28	7:00 PM	Men's Group, TBA
Sat/Sun Dec. 3 & 4		Quarterly Meeting at Putney
Mon. Dec. 5	4:30 PM	Experiment with Light Meditation at Shulamith Eagle's
Sun. Dec. 11	11:30 AM	Friendly Forum: <i>What is your experience with the Divine?</i> Led by Tom Baskett

OPEN MEETING FOR LISTENING AND SUPPORT FOR SPIRITUAL LEADINGS

Sunday, Nov 13, 4 to 5:30 PM
Jean Rosenberg's house

Would you like good listening while you explain and explore where you are being spiritually led? Would you like support in discernment? Are you led to offer support by listening and discernment?

Then join us in this opportunity to speak and listen to each other about our leadings. We will divide up the time among those who wish to speak.

Please note that spiritual leadings may be to what seem like small things, and even broad leadings usually start out that way. All leadings call for discernment and faithfulness.

Shulamith and Jean are organizing this after approval of the idea by W&S committee. It could evolve into an ongoing group, though always open to new people.

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED AND WELCOME!

Middlebury Warming Shelter and Day Station

Donations to cover the budget of the Middlebury Warming Shelter and Day Station for homeless people are needed. The Warming Shelter provides a safe and warm overnight plus breakfast from late October through April. The Day Station has been added this year as a structured safe and warm place, with some counseling and resources, during the cold weather. You can write a check to Middlebury Friends Meeting with a note on it: For the Warming Shelter.

The Shelter and Day Station also needs volunteers to participate in the staffing. They will train volunteers.

Addressing Structural Racism in Friends' Institutions

Donations to New England Yearly Meeting to cover an unbudgeted initiative adopted at NEYM sessions in August are needed. NEYM minuted its support, moral and financial, for Friends General Conference to do a cultural audit on institutional racism. This means examining the mission, policies, structure, and practices of FGC for how they may exclude or harm people of color. Such effects are usually pretty invisible to white Friends, so the audit means hiring experienced consultants who will involve Friends of all colors in examining the institution. This expense was not budgeted, so FGC has to come up with the funds, and NEYM (along with some other YMs) wishes to support it. Checks can be sent to NEYM with the note: For the FGC cultural audit.

(Jean's note: A comparable anti-racism audit was done at Farm and Wilderness Camps when I was on the Board there, and was very helpful.)

SENDING A MESSAGE TO THE LIST SERVE

Several Friends have asked me recently how they can send a message to the Middlebury Quaker list serve. It couldn't be easier... simply send an email to our address [middleburyquakers@googlegroups.com] and your words will reach the inbox of all who are subscribed.

Note that you must send your message from the email address that your subscription is registered with. If your email address should ever change, please be sure to let me or Aaron Coburn [aaron.coburn@gmail.com] know and we will update the records. Similarly, if you are not in the group and would like to added, send us a line!

—Win [winslow.colwell@gmail.com]

Middlebury Friends Meeting

Monthly Meeting for Business

16 October, 2016

Clerk: Jean Rosenberg

Recording Clerk: Priscilla Baker

Present were Laura Asermily, Tom Baskett, Sas Carey, Manya Dickinson, Tom Dickinson, Brud Leedom, Grace McGrath, Lucy McKeon, Karen Nawn-Fahey, Don Peabody, and Lianna Tennial.

16.10.01 Monthly meeting opened with a reading from PHP #439, *Marking the Quaker Path: 7 Key Words + 1* by Robert Griswold

16.10.02 September 18, 2016 minutes, accepted as printed in the newsletter.

16.10.03 Treasurer's Report (Karen Nawn-Fahey) All statements in this report are as of September 30, 2016. During September, the Meeting had donations of \$225.00.

During September, Meeting expenses totaled \$335.15. This includes \$160 for Childcare Coordination, \$40 for Childcare, and \$135.15 for Pastoral Care. When these checks clear, the bank balance should be \$4150.25.

NEYM requested additional donations from monthly meetings to support the FGC Cultural Audit. MFM recently increased its regular contribution to NEYM by \$400 (appr. 15% increase) this year. We revisited our budget discussion from last month and agreed to not send additional money. Tom Baskett will draft and send a letter of spiritual support for this effort and the hope that part of our additional donation will be used for this purpose. Jean Rosenberg will prepare a statement for the newsletter explaining the Cultural Audit and invite individuals to send money to YM for this, if so moved.

Warming shelter donations: Friends may make donations to our local warming shelter via MFM, earmarked Charter House Coalition warming shelter. Tom Dickinson reported that the Coalition has added a new feature, a day station so participants have a place during day time hours for work and housing pursuits, warmth, and socialization. It is noted that the Charter House Coalition seeks volunteers.

Finance Committee will present a draft of the 2017 budget at November monthly meeting.

16.10.04 Earthcare Committee (Fran Putnam) *Active Hope* Project: Attendance at the events was as follows: 16 people at the first discussion, 7 at the second session, 8 at the third session, and 13 at the workshop. A goal of the program is to move people from awareness-with-despair to finding ways to take action to combat climate change. Earthcare and Jean Rosenberg are evaluating the series and discussing any follow up.

Interfaith Climate Action Network (ICAN): ICAN and Middlebury Area Clergy Association (MACA) will hold a day-long workshop for the wider community on the topic of Joanna Macy's book, Active Hope, on January 21 at the CVUUS, facilitated by Professor Marc Lapin.

16.10.05 Committee on Outreach and Social Action - COSA (Don Peabody)

1. Community Supper: There is ongoing conversation about the problem of running out of food.
2. Refugee Resettlement support and events: Manya Dickinson will follow through with someone in Rutland, as well as local faith groups.
3. Keeping youth local in Vermont is a program Cheryl is working on and will keep us informed.

16.10.06 Worship and Study Committee (Priscilla Baker)

1. Friendly Forums: Moved the November date (Thanksgiving weekend) to Dec. 11. 15 copies of the Pendle Hill Pamphlet to be used for the next few FFs have been delivered and are available either to borrow or buy.
2. Jean Rosenburg gave a report on the Spiral of Empowerment workshop on Oct. 8.
How do we deal with the frightening and horrifying aspects of present reality so that we neither slip into denial or despair? How do we find the resilience to choose Active Hope? How do we keep up our spirits and energy to do our part in the Great Turning, the sustainability and peacemaking revolution? Twelve of us met for 3 hours to go through the experience of the Spiral of Empowerment, as described in Active Hope by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. We moved through the exercises to recognize and express our gratitude, acknowledge our feelings of grief and dread and then be liberated to move on to perspectives of change, to realize the potential for change toward a positive future, and to choose our own steps to take toward it. We created a very long list of the ways the Great Turning is already happening, and we realized we could make it much longer with more time!
3. NEYM is sponsoring a clerking workshop to be held on Oct. 29 at Burlington Monthly Meeting. Four MFM Friends plan to attend: Tom Baskett, Priscilla Baker, Sas Carey and Don Peabody

16.10.07 Fellowship Committee: (Spence Putnam) The House Tour/Potluck scheduled for October had to be cancelled because of illness. It will be rescheduled at a future date, probably in November. The Fellowship Committee has requested an augmentation in members from the Nominating Committee in order to carry out its responsibilities more easily—this is currently under discussion. The committee is reviewing its responsibilities as outlined in the Committee Structure report of the Meeting and may request some clarification or changes at some point. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 20th at the rise of Meeting.

FOLLOWUP: Co-clerks will talk with Fellowship committee to clarify with them their tasks and how to best facilitate these tasks, so the Nominating Committee is better able to find members. Clerks will then contact Nominating Committee.

16.10.08 Pastoral Care Committee (Sas Carey)

1. Friends are reminded that all of us share in the responsibility for reaching out to newcomers, people who come and then drift away, and others who pass through our doors.
2. Emergency Notification and confidentiality: PCC has reworked the original draft and is ready to send this out to Friends to fill out and return.

16.10.09 NEYM 2016 Sessions: YM asks that monthly meeting consider a few topics.

1. Climate Change minute: Co-clerks will follow up with Fran Putnam and Earthcare.
2. In an effort to bring the budget into balance, YM encourages monthly meetings to increase their contribution by at least 5% each year for the next several years. (see Item 3, #2 above)
3. Faith and Practice revision committee is working on the section on membership. Jean will review this and refer it to whomever should be further involved.

Meeting closed after a brief moment of silence.

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING		
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)		
		Editor: Win Colwell
Co-Clerks	Recording Clerk	Treasurer
Tom Baskett 989-7034	Priscilla Baker	Karen Nawn-Fahey
Jean Rosenberg 388-6453	388-8024	PO Box 1026
		Middlebury, VT 05753
Pastoral Care Committee		
Caring for one another in a loving community is an important part of our life as a Meeting.		
Call any member of Pastoral Care to share a concern or need.		
Sas Carey (388-1301)	Norm Tjossem (388-0338)	Grace McGrath (388-6576)
Wendy Goodwin (385-1900)	Brud Leedom (558-1005)	
We welcome your submissions! — winslow.colwell@gmail.com		
News of Quakerly Interest — lucym@shoreham.net		

MIDDLEBURY FRIENDS MEETING

PO Box 1026

Middlebury, VT 05753

Meeting for Worship 10 AM every First Day

Havarah House, 56 N. Pleasant St. (Rt.7), Middlebury

www.middleburyquakers.org

Please send newsletter submissions to the address above or to
win@wcolwell.com